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AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Office on 01 July 2005  
(07.01.2005):

5 amended claims 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12; claim 4 deleted;  
claims 5-14 as originally filed, renumbered 4-13]

1. The use of essentially insoluble micronized plant fibers in the form of microparticles, at least 90% by weight of which are less than 700 µm in size, as an ingredient in the preparation of a nutritional composition for reducing mycotoxin bioavailability in humans or animals when a food liable to be contaminated with said mycotoxins is ingested.
2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the micronized plant fibers are in the form of microparticles, at least 90% by weight of which are less than or equal to 400 µm in size.
3. The use as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the micronized plant fibers are in the form of microparticles, at least 90% by weight of which are between 2 µm and 200 µm, inclusive, in size.
4. The use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that said nutritional composition is for reducing the bioavailability of hydrophobic mycotoxins.
5. The use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the plant fibers are chosen from fibers derived:
  - from nutritional plants chosen from cereals, leguminous plants, edible plants and fruits,

- from plants used by the paper industry, chosen from trees, sugar cane, bamboo and cereal straw.

5 6. The use as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the plant fibers derived from cereals are chosen from wheat, barley, oat, maize, millet, rice, rye and sorghum fibers, and malted equivalents thereof.

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7. The use as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the fibers derived from nutritional plants, other than cereals, are chosen from fibers derived from apples, pears, grapeseeds, lupin and soya seeds, tomatoes, peas and coffee.

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8. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the nutritional composition is for reducing the bioavailability of ochratoxin A, aflatoxins, fumonisin and/or deoxynivalenol, and that the micronized plant fibers are chosen from wheat fibers and oat fibers, and mixtures thereof.

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25 9. The use as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the nutritional composition is for reducing ochratoxin A bioavailability, and that the plant fibers are micronized wheat fibers in the form of microparticles, 90% by weight of which are less than or equal to 100 µm in size.

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35 10. The use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the nutritional composition is in the form of a food supplement, and that the amount of micronized plant fibers in said supplement represents up to 100% by weight of the total weight of said supplement.

11. The use as claimed in claim 10, characterized in  
that the amount of micronized plant fibers in said  
supplement is between 80% and 100% by weight of  
5 the total weight of said supplement.
12. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8,  
characterized in that the nutritional composition  
is intended for human nutrition, and that it is in  
10 the form of a nutritional ingredient to be added  
during the manufacture of a food product at a rate  
of from 0.05% to 20% by weight relative to the  
total weight of said food product.
- 15 13. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8,  
characterized in that the nutritional composition  
is intended for animal nutrition, and that it is  
in the form of a starting material to be added to  
the daily food intake which is given to domestic  
20 or breeding animals, or to be incorporated, as an  
ingredient, during the manufacture of a complete  
food for domestic or breeding animals at a rate of  
from 0.05% to 10% by weight relative to the total  
weight of the food intake or of the complete food.